THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

20 December 2001

AM 10:00 **CONVENE**, Suite 312, 441 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes: 15 November 2001

B. Dates of next meetings: 17 January 2002
21 February 2002

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service

CFA 20/DEC/01- 1, Washington Monument. 15th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW. Visitor Center and security improvements. Preliminary concept.

B. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

CFA 20/DEC/01- 2, Parking garage extensions and terraces, revisions to the entrance approaches. Final. (Previous: CFA 23/JUL/98-1).

C. Department of the Navy

CFA 20/DEC/01- 3, United States Marine Corps Barracks Annex and Band Facility. 7th and L streets, SE. New building and parking structure. Revised coneept. (Previous: CFA 15/NOV/01-6).

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 20 December 2001

D. D.C. Department of Public Works / Downtown DC BID

CFA 20/DEC/01- 4, Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, 500 Block of 10th Street, NW. Streetscape design. Final. (Previous: CFA 19/JUL/01- 10).

E. District of Columbia Public Schools / U.S. Army Corp of Engineers

CFA 20/DEC/01- 5, Noyes Elementary School. 10th and Franklin streets, NE. Addition and renovation. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/NOV/01- 14).

F. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Old Georgetown Act

Appendix I.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 02-015, Massachusetts Avenue and H Street, NW (Sq. 529). Massachusetts Courts. New 14 story apartment building. Revised concept. (Previous: S.L. 01-042).

b. S.L. 02- 16, George Washington University. 616 23rd Street, NW. New 700-bed residence hall. Concept.

c. S.L. 02- 17, George Washington University. 607 23rd Street, NW. New 204-bed residence hall. Concept.

d. Appendix II.

III. INSPECTION

Freer Gallery of Art, Objects proposed for acquisition.

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 01-32 HPA. 01-68	1661 35th Street, NW (1659 35th Street, NW) Barclay and Bordonaro Residence	New building - revised design - conceptual

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Case has been on HOLD pending further review for a period of time without submission of supplemental information. File separate concept application with drawings for review by the Commission when ready.

O.G. 01-284 * HPA. 01-597	1832-34 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Cavit Ozturk Café Divan Georgetown Hill Inn	Banners, signs and awning - revised design - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed metal marquee over entrance, with 6-inch high letters reading "Georgetown Hill Inn" on front and both sides. Proposed projecting sign on Wisconsin Avenue was NOT approved and has been deleted from this application. No objection to issuance of permit for proposed 1'-6" wide x 12'-0" long canvas banner located within brickwork at end wall of building with lettering reading "Café Divan" and for 4-inch high vinyl letters on glass on four storefronts reading "Café Divan". No objection to plaques for both businesses. See supplemental drawings received and dated 28 November and __ December 2001. Due to the location and configuration of the building and that two businesses occupy it, the Commission recommends a waiver on the size of the banner and the total area of sign scheme in this project.

O.G. 02-07 HPA. 02-09	3238 Prospect Street, NW Silkari East Office building	Atrium - revised design - conceptual

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Case was withdrawn by applicant.

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* See ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-10 HPA. 02-12	2803 Q Street, NW Michael Stiglitz Residence	2-story rear addition and alterations to front - permit

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Case was superseded by cases O.G. 02-43 and O.G. 02-44.

O.G. 02-14 HPA. 02-16	1235-37 Wisconsin Avenue, NW East Banc, Inc. Commercial/residential	Alterations to storefront and rear addition - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefront, side in-fill addition and rear addition for a residential component, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 11 December 2001 which indicate a wood storefront rather than metal, and the in-fill addition with door and window centered on wall. Findings of historic fabric of original storefront during partial demolition may affect approved design and must be brought to the Commission for review. Working drawings conform to approved concept with revisions. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-173). Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval. File separate submission of working drawings, including details, with permit application for any signs for review by the Commission when ready.

O.G. 02-16 HPA. 02-18	1684 32nd Street, NW Steve O'Neill Residence	Alterations to window openings, parking pad and garden wall - conceptual

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to concept design for proposed alterations, including alterations to window openings on rear facade, addition of window openings at basement level on side wall, and parking pad off alley, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 29 November 2001. Recommend **AGAINST** concept design for alterations to basement window in front facade. Recommend a garden privacy screen composed of a low brick wall with wood board fence to resemble fence on side yard.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-17 HPA. 02-20	1344 29th Street, NW William Shackelford Residence	Replacement gate - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for replacement stockade gate which is a replacement-in-kind and will match existing stockade fence, and for minor repairs to existing stockade fence. Recommend consideration of a future replacement with a board fence. Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review.

O.G. 02-23 HPA. 02-25	1666 33rd Street, NW Bruno Fidel Visavis Hair Salon	Remove illegal rear addition - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed removal of rear addition built without review or permit. Existing French doors and sidelights will be relocated to their original location on rear masonry wall.

O.G. 02-25 HPA. 02-27	3800 Reservoir Road, NW MedStar Health, Inc. Georgetown University Hospital	Entrance signs and canopies - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed entrance signs composed of free standing 12 ft high internally-illuminated panels to replace existing sing panels on entrances 1 and 2 to the Georgetown University Hospital as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 14 November and 5 December 2001. No objection to introduction of logos for MedStar Health aligned with existing historic wall-mounted sign. No objection to issuance of permit for recovering of canopies at entrance plaza using blue canvas with MedStar logo on valance front. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-171). Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-26 HPA. 02-28	3006 Q Street, NW Harmon Burns Residence	Fence around tree planter on public space - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation of 12-inch high iron fence around tree planter on public space, PROVIDED design and installation meet existing Tree Space Beautification Regulations prescribed by the District Government. Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review.

O.G. 02-37 HPA. 02-61	3100 N Street, NW Georgetown Baptist Church	Replacement rear enclosure - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for work in-progress for reconstruction of brick enclosure over mechanical room which had been damaged. New work will match height and configuration of original structure.

O.G. 02-38 HPA. 02-63	3014 P Street, NW Camilla Marvin Residence	Replacement roof - permit

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Submitted materials and site visit of 19 November 2001 indicate that proposed roof replacement will not be visible from public thoroughfare. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board

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O.G. 02-40 HPA. 02-66	1045 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Verizon Real Estate	Replacement roof - permit

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Submitted materials and site visit of 19 November 2001 indicate that proposed roof replacement will not be visible from public thoroughfare. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-41 HPA. 02-68	1414 34th Street, NW Louis Reveuet Residence	Replacement roof - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed metal roof replacement on garage structure off alley as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 6 December 2001. No objection to issuance of permit for replacement of wood fascia in front bay of house, which is a replacement-in-kind.

O.G. 02-42 HPA. 02-70	1624 29th Street, NW Tom and Barbara Steinmetz Residence	Rear addition, dormer and alterations to entry door - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, including rear addition with roof deck and wood railing (note removal of scupper), dormer addition and alterations for door surround at entrance on side elevation, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 28 November 2001. Working drawings conform to approved concept design. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-163). File new submission of working drawings, including details, with permit application for fence and arbor in coordination with proposed landscape plan for review by the Commission when ready. Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

O.G. 02-43 HPA. 02-77	2803 Q Street, NW Michael Stiglitz Residence	Replacement windows and repairs to front portico - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed replacement window sash as shown in supplemental information received and dated 6 December 2001. Existing wood frame and trim will be retained and repaired, and sash liner will be concealed. No objection to alterations to front, including new French doors on second floor, repair of existing metal railing and repair of existing wood portico.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-44 HPA. 02-78	2803 Q Street, NW Michael Stiglitz Residence	2-story rear addition and alterations - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations, including rear two-story in-fill addition, alterations for French doors at rear facade, and mechanical equipment on roof in a location where it will not be visible from public thoroughfare. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-203).

O.G. 02-45 HPA. 02-79	1249 31st Street, NW Georgina and Outerbridge Horsey Residence	Metal trellis and brick wall on rear garden - permit

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Submitted materials and site visit of 19 November 2001 indicate that proposed metal trellis and brick garden wall are not visible from public thoroughfare. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

O.G. 02-46 HPA. 02-80	3046 P Street, NW Hjalte Sederlof Residence	Alterations to rear and side window - conceptual

RECOMMENDATION: Returned without Action. Submitted materials and site visit of 19 November 2001 indicate that proposed alterations to rear and side window will not be visible from public thoroughfare. Refer to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-47 HPA. 02-83	3299 M Street, NW Suku Nair Aditi Indian Restaurant	Alterations to storefront and signs - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefront, and new window opening on side wall as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 4 December 2001. Recommend further study of restoration of side wall windows on second floor to original configuration. No objection to issuance of permit for two signs reading "Aditi Indian Restaurant", one over entry door and one over windows on side wall. Working drawings conform to approved concept design. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-246).

O.G. 02-48 HPA. 02-84	1248 31st Street, NW Brian Mahaubi Residence	Alterations and addition of garage on rear - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed addition of garage on rear and alterations, including metal lattice fence, new window openings at basement level, replacement windows on bay, and light fixtures on alley wall, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 4 December 2001. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous recommendation (O.G. 01-245). Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

O.G. 02-49 HPA. 02-85	1303 Wisconsin Avenue, NW George Gordon Architects Paolo's Restaurant	Alterations and trellis at rear - conceptual

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to concept design for proposed alterations to window openings and trellis with lattice at rear. Building should be painted as well as the CMU building off alley. Note is made that the historic Little Tavern building should be returned to its original character of white metal panels with green trim.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-50 HPA. 02-86	1055 Thomas Jefferson St. NW TMT Foundry LLC The Foundry Building Colonial Parking	Replacement garage signs on 30th Street - existing - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for existing replacement signs for Colonial Parking garage off 30th Street. Note is made that additional free-standing sign for parking garage should not be used as it does not meet code.

O.G. 02-51 HPA. 02-87	1330 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Asad Ramedani Focus	Alterations to storefront - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to storefront as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 4 December 2001, PROVIDED trim is wood to match existing rather than plaster. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-167). File separate submission of working drawings, including details, with permit application for any signs for review by the Commission when ready.

O.G. 02-53 HPA. 02-90	1694 31st Street, NW Richard Fairbanks Residence	Landscape lighting - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed landscape lighting and fixtures PROVIDED wattage is kept to a minimum.

O.G. 02-54 HPA. 02-91	1661½ Wisconsin Avenue, NW Tove Marano Residence	Replacement fence and gate - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed 7'-0" high board fence and gate which is a replacement-in-kind and will match existing. New fence and gate will be painted white. Proposed lattice top has been deleted from this submission as it would exceed height allowed by code.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-55 HPA. 02-92	3412 Q Street, NW Paul Dennett Residence	Addition to second floor - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations and addition to second floor. Working drawings conform to approved concept. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-132). Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

O.G. 02-57 HPA. 02-98	1641 34th Street, NW Lynn Holec Residence	Replacement German siding - in progress - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation of German siding to match original siding which is present under masonite being removed. New siding will be installed over existing furring strips to protect existing historic siding from further damage.

O.G. 02-60 HPA. 02-100	3251 Prospect Street, NW Georgetown Prospect Place Plaza Shops	Canopies over walkways and new enclosure - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed canopies over walkways PROVIDED the fabric used is Sunbrella with 4-inch-wide yellow and white stripes. No objection to addition of new storefront system to match existing storefronts in the Prospect Plaza complex to enclose storage area. Existing shed built without a permit will be removed. Previously proposed trellis and 12' x 20' awning have been deleted from this permit application. Submitted materials match previously approved design documents. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 00-51).

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 02-70 HPA. 02-101	1314 30th Street, NW Deborah A. Katz Residence	Fence around tree planter on public space - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation of 12-inch high iron fence around tree planter on public space PROVIDED design and installation meet existing Tree Space Beautification Regulations prescribed by the District Government.

O.G. 02-80 HPA. 02-114	3422 Reservoir Road, NW Meg Taylor Residence	Replacement windows - permit *

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation on first floor front facade of two custom-made, true-divided-light, single-pane, double-hung wood replacement windows to match existing on second floor. No objection to issuance of permit for repair of existing original historic windows. Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

O.G. 02-88 HPA. 02-106	3303 Water Street, NW 3303 K St. LLC Residential building	Excavation, sheeting and shoring - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed excavation, sheeting and shoring for foundation work below grade in coordination with proposed construction of new residential building at the Pepco site, which received prior concept approval and is in concept development review stage. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-135). Applicant is made aware that changes to the structure above ground as a result of additional review of the design development may have an impact on any foundation work constructed under this permit.

ADDENDUM

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 01-284 HPA. 01-597	1832-34 Wisconsin Avenue, NW Cavit Ozturk Café Divan Georgetown Hill Inn	Banners, signs and awning - revised design - permit

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed metal marquee over entrance, with 6-inch high letters reading "Georgetown Hill Inn" on front and both sides. Proposed projecting sign on Wisconsin Avenue was NOT approved and has been deleted from this application. No objection to issuance of permit for proposed 1'-6" wide x 12'-0" long canvas banner located within brickwork at end wall of building with lettering reading "Café Divan" and for 4-inch high vinyl letters on glass on four storefronts reading "Café Divan". No objection to plaques for both businesses. See supplemental drawings received and dated 28 November and 22 January 2002. Due to the location and configuration of the building and that two businesses occupy it, the Commission recommends a waiver on the size of the banner and the total area of sign scheme in this project.

O.G. 02-32 HPA. 02-40	1066 31st Street, NW R B Associates, Inc. Commercial	Revisions to rear addition - revision to permit

NOTE: Subsequent to our original recommendation for this project, which was returned to you in November, the architect has submitted supplemental sets of completed construction documents. These drawings match the approved set of drawings and have been stamped as such. They are sent to you to supersede the original record drawings and complete the permit review process. The recommendation will now read:

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed revisions to approved design for rear addition, as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 28 November 2001. Supplemental drawings indicate a continuous height on the party wall to screen mechanical equipment on the flat roof, and removal of mechanical conduits on rear pitch of roof of historic building. See previous Recommendation (O.G. 01-215). Previously proposed demolition of second floor which, as perceived from sidewalk, would have an adverse impact on the historic building and was NOT approved, has been deleted from this permit application. Note is made that permit application is pending final zoning review. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further review in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 02-009	550 17th Street, NW Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	Security bollards - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed security bollards for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation building.

S.L. 02- 010	1801 Constitution Avenue, NW Organization of American States (Pan American Union Building)	Extend parking lot - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend **AGAINST** issuance of permit for proposed extension of parking lot. Recommend further study of parking lot configuration to preserve existing trees and provide additional visual screening from Virginia Avenue. File new submission of working drawings, including detailed landscape and drainage plans that preserves existing trees and a surveyor's plat with permit application for review by the Commission when ready. Note: Proposal will require coordination with Department of the Interior or the National Park Service which has jurisdiction over Reservation No. 384 (Square 147).

S.L. 02-011	4863 Colorado Avenue, NW B. Harvey Residence	Fence and gates - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed fence and gates as shown in drawings received and dated 7 December 2001. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further reviews in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for consideration.

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 02-012	4857 Colorado Avenue, NW T. Dawson Residence	Fence and gates - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed fence and gates as shown in drawings received and dated 7 December 2001. Any modifications to the approved design as a result of further reviews in the permit process must be submitted to the Commission for consideration.

S.L. 02-013	500 5th Street, NW National Research Council	Guard booth and security barriers - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed guard booth in public space and two security barriers at entrance to underground garage as shown in drawings received and dated 7 December 2001.

S.L. 02-018	8000 16th Street, NW V. Andrews Residence	Replacement garage - Permit.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed three-car garage to replace existing as shown in drawings received and dated 14 December 2001.

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS PRE-MEETING TOUR

20 December 2001

Convene: This was an unplanned site inspection, following the lunch break, to the World War II Memorial site. The Commission looked at a mock-up of the stone pillars for the memorial in two different finishes. See Exhibit A, next page.

Members present:
J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Harry G. Robinson III, Vice-Chairman
Carolyn Brody
Donald A. Capoccia
Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel
Pamela Nelson
Eden Rafshoon

Staff present:
Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Frederick J. Lindstrom, Assistant Secretary

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EXHIBIT A

7 January 2002

Dear General Kelley:

In connection with its meeting on 20 December 2001, the Commission, at the invitation of the National Park Service (which was before us on an adjacent matter on the Mall), made an unplanned inspection tour of the construction site of the World War II Memorial to view the sample stone pillars with the two different surface finishes. The members thought the polished stone was too dark in appearance, and too cold and glossy. Considering the amount of vertical stone in the memorial, the relative darkness could appear somewhat overbearing and even depressing, particularly on cloudy or rainy days.

The members felt the rougher, matte finish's slightly lighter coloration was more appropriate for the vertical surfaces, more consonant with the texture of the granite finish on the horizontal pavers, and that the raked texture introduced the intervention of the human hand, and with it an artistic component that could help allay some of the criticism of the Memorial on aesthetic grounds. However, it was felt that the surface might benefit from a less pronounced and slightly more random scarification, and still preserve the advantage of the lighter colored surface. Although more reflective, there was still enough dark flecking in the stone to avoid the glare of, say, a shiny white marble, and could become slightly shadowed in raking light.

The Commission looks forward to reviewing the stone mockups formally at a later date. As always, the staff is available to review any changes and to assist you and the design team should questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

General Paul X. Kelley, USMC (Ret.)
Chairman, American Battle Monuments Commission
Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 501
2300 Clarendon Blvd
Arlington, VA 22201

cc: Terry Carlstrom, National Park Service
John Parsons, National Park Service
William Barry Owenby, ABMC
Ambassador Haydn Williams
General John Herrling

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

20 December 2001

The meeting was convened at 10:12 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices in the National Building Museum, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, after an inspection of stone samples at the construction site of the World War II Memorial. Exhibit A, preceding page.

Members present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
	Hon. Harry G. Robinson III, Vice-Chairman
	Hon. Carolyn Brody
	Hon. Donald A. Capoccia
	Hon. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel
	Hon. Pamela Nelson
	Hon. Eden Rafshoon
Staff present:	Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
	Mr. Frederick J. Lindstrom, Assistant Secretary
	Ms. Sue Kohler
	Mr. José Martínez-Canino
	Ms. Susan Raposa
National Capital Planning Commission staff present:	Mr. William Dowd
	Mr. George Toop
	Ms. Nancy Witherell

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of the minutes of the 15 November meeting. The minutes were approved without objection.

B. Dates of next meetings, approved as:

17 January 2002
21 February 2002

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. National Park Service

CFA 20/DEC/01-1, Washington Monument, 15th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. Visitor Center and security improvements. Preliminary concept. The Assistant Secretary said this proposal was to add a visitors center, security screening facility, and perimeter security to the monument and its grounds, so that the unsightly Jersey barriers and other temporary security measures could be removed. He said he and the Secretary had had the opportunity, along with several others, to be present during the selection process the day before and had found it very interesting because of the diversity and range of the four submissions. He introduced John Parsons from the Park Service, who said that they had taken advantage of the increased security requirements to call for a design that would also preserve the prairie setting of the monument, improve pedestrian circulation, and provide an underground visitors center that would make the sometimes long wait more pleasant for the many visitors who came to the monument. He noted the presence of representatives of the Grunley-Walsh Company, who would be the general contractors, recalling that they had built the FDR Memorial and recently restored the Washington Monument with the Michael Graves scaffolding. Mr. Parsons then introduced the selected landscape architect, Laurie Olin.

Mr. Olin introduced Warren Cox from Hartman-Cox, their consulting architects, and mentioned also structural engineer James Madison Cutts, security consultants ARA, and the soils engineers and scientists who would be working on the project. He said the old problem had been how to get the large number of visitors to the top in groups of twenty-five and back down again; now, there was the added problem of doing it safely, of screening all visitors before they went up. There was also the problem of keeping vehicles from approaching the monument and at the same time making provision for emergency vehicles to do so. He said his first thought had been to use a ha-ha, but he realized that would not work in this situation as it did in an English landscape, and then he thought of using low walls that allowed interesting grading behind them, similar to what Olmsted and Vaux had done at the Capitol in the 1870s to direct pedestrian movement. A combination of this kind of wall and the concept of the ha-ha, he thought, could be used to prevent vehicle penetration, and if done correctly, would not be apparent or interrupt the green of the monument setting. Instead of setting these walls 200 feet out from the monument, as had been proposed originally, he suggested they be placed 400 feet out, near the bottom of the hill, in a transition area from the people-oriented activity at the bottom to the actual hill itself.

Mr. Olin said the next problem was how would people climb the wall, how would they get across the moat? His solution was to pull the wall apart and then ramp up between the two sections, making some provision to keep wheelchairs from falling off the ramp. He said this idea was still at the concept stage, and he did not have any detailed drawings to show. He remarked that he envisioned the wall as being made up of large stone blocks, much like those that were used to shore up the monument foundations in the late 19th century and now covered by the earth forming the mound. This kind of stone would produce a wall that people could sit on. Existing paths, he said, would have to be made less steep, as they did not meet ADA requirements. As to the question of how to get emergency vehicles in when necessary, Mr. Olin said there would have to be places where retractable bollards were used, such as the ramp locations where the walls had been pulled apart; they would be placed so as to allow wheelchairs, but not cars, to get through and could be lowered as necessary.

Mr. Olin then turned to the visitors center plans. It was clear that no one wanted such a facility above ground to mar the simplicity of the grounds. He said their plans were to use the existing

19th century lodge as an entry portal to the visitors center, where the visitor would go down to a skylit area which would allow views of the monument, and where tickets could be purchased, information made available, and security screening take place. There would be an area for queuing, necessary because of the 25-person limit on the elevator. The visitor would then proceed through a tunnel to the monument and into the elevator, which would be extended down to the lower level. He showed drawings, pointing out that the skylight would be the only thing seen above ground; there would be no vertical projections, not even for the fire stairs, which would be covered with a lid flush with the ground that would pop up in case of fire.

Mr. Olin then discussed the treatment of the grounds. He said he was not proposing any radical changes–only pulling the groves of trees out into the grounds a little more. He reviewed the many changes to the monument grounds, actual and proposed, throughout the years, including the more recent ones: the McMillan proposals of 1901, a 1932 plan by Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and Henry Hubbard, Thomas Jeffers's 1948 plan and SOM's plan of 1965. He noted that the ball fields, President's helicopter pad, and the Sylvan Theatre would remain, although he said something would have to be done about the parking lot off Constitution Avenue; he expected that landscape architect James van Sweden, designer of the adjacent German-American Friendship Garden, would be asked to work on this problem and complete the missing middle section of the garden, now occupied by the parking lot entrance drive. Next Mr. Olin pointed out the curved paths and walkways, noting that those coming from the east would be fully accessible to the handicapped, unlike those now existing. The disk around the monument itself would be paved in stone and set into the ground a bit to give it more presence, and there would be backless stone seating all around, enabling people to look inward or back out at the city. Lastly, Mr. Olin commented on the lighting of the monument, saying that it needed to be redone as it consisted of three generations of lighting schemes; in particular, the ugly light boxes needed to be moved so they were not on axial vistas.

The members had a number of questions for Mr. Olin, some of which he could not answer at this point because of the very preliminary nature of the design. Ms. Diamonstein had a question for Mr. Olin about the number of trees to be added and whether they might, in some cases, affect any open vistas. Mr. Olin said he could state with certainty that no vistas would be compromised by the additional trees; in regard to questions about the walks, he said the width would be at least 12 feet and might be more if further study determined that was not wide enough; questions such as this and the kind of materials would be worked out in conjunction with the Park Service. Ms. Nelson asked if the flags around the monument would remain. Mr. Olin said they would, because they had become part of the icon and people loved them. Mr. Capoccia had noticed that many of the previous plans referred to by Mr. Olin showed changes made to 15th Street, and he asked what Mr. Olin's plans were. Mr. Olin said 15th Street had just been rebuilt and realigned in a way that took it farther away from the monument and the old lodge building, and he was not going to touch it; he thought it provided a suitable end point for the grounds without further alteration.

Both the Chairman and Ms. Diamonstein asked about signage, particularly the kind that would inform visitors, before they walked all the way up to the base of the monument, that they had to enter through the lodge to get their tickets. The Chairman was concerned about mechanical equipment and where it would be placed so that it was not an eyesore. Mr. Olin said he thought it could all be placed in and around the skylight structure, but he hadn't yet worked it out in any detail. Mr. Brown also asked about the presidential helicopter support area on the east side of 17th Street. Arnold Goldstein, Superintendent of National Capital Parks Central, said this was not a diplomatic arrival spot, nor the place where the President's helicopter took off or arrived; it was simply a place where support helicopters would land and take off on the grass; there would be no change to the grounds. Support

vehicles would be stationed mostly on 17th Street, but could possibly come up the monument grounds walks.

Mrs. Brody was curious to know what Mr. Olin thought the impact of the World War II Memorial would be on the monument grounds; she said she noticed that the west side of the grounds appeared to be less well developed than the east. Mr. Olin said he didn't think it was less developed, but it appeared so because it did not have the entrance to the visitor screening facility. He said the World War II Memorial would undoubtedly increase the number of visitors approaching from the west, but he thought a new path that would be added on that side would be immediately apparent and would take the visitor right to the monument; he agreed, however, that signs indicating where to purchase tickets were especially important for this side of the grounds. The Vice-Chairman thought the great swath of grass on that side could handle the crowds, whereas if the memorial were on the east side of 15th Street there might be problems. He also thought a great debt of gratitude was owed to the Park Service for its thoughtful reaction to the extreme pressure to do something to meet the security requirements as quickly and as appropriately as possible.

The Chairman said he was delighted with Mr. Olin's proposals. He commented on the additional trees proposed and thought they would make an important contribution to strengthening the perimeter of the grounds. He asked for a motion to approved the preliminary concept; it was made by Ms. Diamonstein, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, and carried unanimously. Exhibit B

B. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

CFA 20/DEC/01-2, Parking garage extensions and terraces, revisions to the entrance approaches. Final. (Previous: CFA 23/Jul/98-1) Staff member José Martínez recalled the previous submission for the parking garage additions, terraces, and new circulation patterns around the Kennedy Center that were approved in concept in 1998. He passed out the letter written at that time expressing some concern about the fountains, parking on the terraces, and some details of the proposed changes in the facades. He said final drawings had now been submitted, and he introduced Claudette Donlon, senior vice-president of the Kennedy Center to introduce the group of consultants who would discuss the changes that had been made since the last submission.

Ms. Donlon said some changes had been made in response to the Commission's comments, new discoveries in site conditions, or simply because of cost. She said the project had three goals: (1) to create a new site plan which would address accessibility, security, vehicular congestion, pedestrian safety, and improve the aesthetic quality of the 25th Street entrance; (2) to increase the parking capacity on the site by expanding the garages both to the north and south of the building; and (3) to beautify the site and provide some flexible spaces that would enhance the center's mission as a memorial and a performing arts center. She said the plazas created by the garage expansion would be used for both programmatic functions and for visitor services such as dining. Ms. Donlon then introduced landscape architect David Mittelstadt from Sasaki Associates and architect Ken Lewandoski from Childs Bertman and Tseckares. She asked Mr. Mittelstadt to begin the presentation.

Mr. Mittelstadt began the presentation by recalling the previously-reviewed new vehicular and pedestrian traffic circulation patterns from 25th Street and Virginia Avenue to the main entrance, developed to separate the two functions and also to separate the vehicular drop-off and parking functions. Handicapped accessibility from Virginia Avenue would now be possible without ramps and with minimal grading. For security reasons there would also be options to direct traffic completely away from the building's main entrance or to operate the drop-off loops in different ways. Bus

circulation drop-off and pick-up, as well as much-needed bus parking would also be provided for, and there would be a commuter bicycle route from the Center to the Roosevelt Bridge. Lastly, he noted the entrance onto the Potomac River Parkway and I-66 westbound, which would keep local streets free of this traffic.

Mr. Mittelstadt said the changes to the approved concept covered three areas. The first concerned a sewer running underneath the building that had received a structural cover when the Kennedy Center was built. They had hoped to be able to remove the cover and lower the grade of the additions and had based their design on that premise; however, it had turned out to be very costly to remove the cover, and so there had been some redesign which affected the northeast and southwest corners of the site. The second change had come because the Kennedy Center wanted to provide a distinctive ADA accessible route from New Hampshire Avenue up to the main entrance. He noted that the existing ramp had an excessive grade–10 percent or more–but in conjunction with having to make the grade somewhat higher in that area, they had been able to provide a loop-type walkway right up to the lobby entrance. The last major change was the elimination of the off-ramp from I-66 to the Kennedy Center. This had been at the request of the District's Department of Public Works, because it was thought that in conjunction with an on-ramp in the same area, a dangerous weaving situation would be created. Because of the elimination of the off-ramp, the bus parking had to be reconfigured, but this offered the opportunity to add more trees for screening. Mr. Middlestadt commented that the changes in grading required because of the necessity of keeping the sewer cover had actually worked to their advantage in some cases, and he thought the view from I-66 would be improved because of the modifications made to the parking areas at the southwest corner of the site.

Mr. Middlestadt then described the plantings intended for various areas of the site, concentrating on the four planters on the plaza of the east portico, since the Commission had asked what seasonal plantings were intended–especially for the winter months. He said it had been determined that additional air vents were needed for mechanical equipment right below the area where the planters were located, and so the planters had been redesigned in a two-tier arrangement to accommodate the vents. It had also been decided that the Center's display of annual plantings would be concentrated in these planters and along the grand staircase rather than scattered around the grounds. In the wintertime, displays could include pansies, juniper, boxwood, and other such cold-hardy plantings. Mr. Mittelstadt then turned the presentation over to Ken Lewandowski to talk about plans for the building.

Mr. Lewandowski said the footprint of the building would be the same as it was in 1998 when the Commission looked at the concept plan. There would be an additional 600 parking spaces added to the existing 1,450, obtained by extensions of the garages at both the north and south ends, with six entrance points around the site, and fourteen drive lanes, an increase of four. The increase in parking would be accomplished by extending the podium on the north and south ends, which Mr. Lewandowski thought would actually make the building look better, giving it a larger base. He said the material for the extensions would be a white precast, which would look very much like the marble of the building. Then he showed some views of the grand stair, which would be a focal point at the end of New Hampshire Avenue and the primary pedestrian access to the site. It would be built in a sweeping curve, about 60 feet at the base, tapering to 30 feet at the top. There would be step planters at the side, part of the display of seasonal plantings referred to by Mr. Mittelstadt. The stair would be completely clad in granite, the material of the plaza. The two new upper terraces would be paved in a pattern of squares consisting of both exposed aggregate and standard broom-finish concrete marked off with bands of black concrete. The lower terrace at the south end would be paved in a combination of exposed aggregate and broom-finish concrete.

The Chairman asked what the function of the lower terrace would be and how people would get out there. Mr. Lewandowski said it would be used primarily for performances and other activities and would be entered from the garage. The steps that had been shown originally had been eliminated because they would require that elevators also be provided, and the cost was too great. Mrs. Brody asked if this was the terrace that the Commission's previous letter had said "should not be used for parking under any circumstances". Mr. Lewandowski said it was. Mrs. Brody noted that, unlike the other terraces, it had no landscaping and was very plain in appearance. Mr. Lewandowski said the landscaping was around the perimeter, off the deck itself, and Ms. Donlon said the area would be used only minimally for programming, especially since the stairs and the fountain had been eliminated. She said the new parking additions would be adequate even when the individual theatres were filled to capacity, and they did not see any future need to use the lower terrace for parking. Mrs. Brody still thought something had to be done to the surface of the terrace to keep it from becoming a concrete eyesore.

There was a discussion about the walls of the parking garage in this area and how much would be seen; Mr. Mittelstadt described the landscaping that would serve as screening. The Chairman asked about the doors leading from the garage to the lower terrace–were they large enough for a car to pass through? Mr. Lewandowski said they were, and the Chairman replied that the Commission would make its approval conditional on making these doors too small for cars, thus making the use of the terrace for parking out of the question. Mrs. Brody agreed, adding that the terrace should be landscaped just as the other terraces were, so that it was treated equally and would always be a terrace. The Chairman thought it was very unlikely that the terrace would be used for performances, and he suggested that it could just be sodded with grass. Mr. Mittelstadt was not sure if the structure would take that weight, but he said he would look into it. Ms. Diamonstein suggested its use as a sculpture garden, if museums were interested in exhibiting some pieces. The Chairman recalled the pattern in the pavement in front of the Old Post Office and thought something like that might be considered.

The Vice-Chairman asked if there could be a discussion of the grand stair, which he thought was a bit overdesigned and fussy, especially the planters going up the stairs. The Chairman said he would be happy to discuss it, as he had some reservations about the taper, thinking that it would be better if the stair were the same width all the way; he observed also that the curve was not in the vocabulary of the building and thought it should be replaced by a more rectilinear geometry. Mrs. Brody asked about the restaurant on the north terrace that had been mentioned during the previous presentation. Ms. Donlon said that concept had not been developed any further, but that did not mean that the idea had been abandoned. The Chairman thought it was time for a motion to be made, and Mr. Robinson then moved that the Commission accept the changes, but ask for further design details on the stair and for the roof of the lower south terrace. Mrs. Brody requested that the doors to the terrace be narrowed to preclude the passage of cars, and the landscaping be equal to that of the other terraces. The motion was seconded by Ms. Diamonstein and carried unanimously. Exhibit C

C. Department of the Navy

CFA 20/DEC/01-3, United States Marine Corps Barracks Annex and Band Facility, 7th and L streets, S.E. New building and parking structure. Revised concept. (Previous: CFA 15/NOV/01-6) The Assistant Secretary reported that the District's Historic Preservation Review Board had requested some changes to the design and introduced architect Mark Boekenheide to explain them.

Mr. Boekenheide said that since his last presentation he had met with a number of groups having an interest in the project, and changes had been requested involving the site plan and the garage. The HPRB had been concerned with view sheds along Virginia Avenue and had asked that minor structures and a retaining wall for the ball field be pulled back out of this corridor. The major change requested was to stay out of the 6th Street view corridor, and so he had gone back to the more inefficient, taller, four-deck parking garage design, built right up to the property line. He said they now understood that the structure planned to go next to the garage would be a recreation center, of as yet undetermined height and material. He noted the Commission's request to hide the garage with as much plant material as possible, but he said the Marine Corps was concerned about security and did not want to have the garage planted out to the point that one could not see into it and security was compromised. Ms. Tess Manns from the Marine Corps was introduced and said the Marines wanted to be able to see into the structure while they were doing their rounds and make sure no one was planting explosives inside the garage. It was suggested to her that cameras inside the structure would be a better way of detecting that, but she said visibility from the outside was now standard Marine and Navy policy. The Chairman suggested that planters on the roof with a little green spilling over the edge, and perhaps others at the middle level, would help soften the structure without cutting down on visibility. Ms. Mann said she would see if that could be accommodated within the budget, which was very tight. The changes as shown by Mr. Boekenheide were then unanimously approved, with the recommendation made in regard to the addition of the planters. Exhibit D

D. D.C. Department of Public Works/Downtown D.C. BID

CFA 20/DEC/01-4, Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, 500 block of 10th Street, N.W. Streetscape design. Final. (Previous: CFA 19/JUL/01-10) Mr. Martínez recalled the previous submission, to which the Commission had no objection, and he said this submission was for further development of the project. He introduced Emeka Moneme from the District's Department of Public Works to begin the presentation.

Mr. Moneme said his department was working in conjunction with the General Services Administration's underground utility reconstruction in the area, figuring this would be a good time to make some improvements to 10th Street in the block in front of Ford's Theatre. He noted that construction documents were about 90-95 percent complete now, and while the project was little changed from what it was in July, he wanted to show the Commission the minor changes that had been made. He asked Stephanie Bothwell from the Downtown BID to do this.

Ms. Bothwell said that at the DPW's request the crosswalk in front of the theatre opposite the Peterson House had been narrowed to about 30 feet, giving more room on the sidewalks for people to gather waiting to cross, and to warn motorists. She said DPW had also recommended more elaborately marked crosswalks at either end of the block, and so they were using the District's standard red concrete in the center with brick along the edges. She then recalled the carriage step and bollards they had previously shown in front of the theatre and said those had been removed because the Park Service felt they could become obstacles to the free movement of the crowds of visitors.

Ms. Bothwell then showed photos and drawings of the proposed tree guards and grates. The guards would be iron and were needed to keep children from sticking gum on the trees. The grates would look like the standard iron ones, but as an experiment they would be made of a tough plastic material that was both inexpensive and lightweight, and would be installed to see how they held up to heavy traffic. Ms. Diamonstein was very much opposed to the use of plastic, and Ms. Bothwell said she was, too, but assured the Commission that the grates would be installed only on a temporary basis

and would not be used if they were not satisfactory. She said the DPW had requested trying them out, because the maintenance on the iron grates was very high, particularly because they had to be cut as the trees grew to avoid girdling.

The Vice-Chairman commented on the proposed lighting, saying that for many years the old lights were stocked at Blue Plains, with the globes still having the old finials. He wondered if that could be investigated and perhaps the originals used in this project.

Ms. Bothwell had no other changes to report, and there was unanimous agreement that those she had described could be approved. Exhibit E

(The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 2:20 p.m The Chairman and Ms. Diamonstein did not return to the meeting after lunch, and the Vice-Chairman assumed the gavel for the rest of the meeting. The agenda order was changed, and item II.F.1 discussed before returning to item II.E.)

F. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Old Georgetown Act
Appendix I. The Appendix was approved without objection.

E. District of Columbia Public Schools/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

CFA 20/DEC/01-5, Noyes Elementary School, 10th and Franklin streets, N.E. Addition and renovation. Final. (Previous: CFA 15/NOV/01-14) The Assistant Secretary recalled the previous submission, when the Commission had no problem with the revised design except for a very plain portico attached to the flat-roofed addition, which seemed to need something to tie it into the original school, although the addition was designed in a more modern style. Eric Cesal from McKissack & McKissack showed drawings of a more generous, welcoming portico with a shed roof. The style was considered acceptable, but Mr. Capoccia asked if the Commission shouldn't require cast stone lintels over each opening, so that the brick would not seem to be hanging in the air. It was agreed by all that this was necessary, and with that request, the final drawings were unanimously approved. Exhibit F

F. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (continued)

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 02-015, Massachusetts Avenue and H Street, N.W. (Sq. 529). Massachusetts Courts. New 14-story apartment building. Revised concept. (Previous: S.L. 01-042) The Assistant Secretary said internal changes had been made to the portion of the building fronting 4th Street; some two-story volumes had been incorporated in each of the units, and the architects wanted to express this on the exterior in a different fenestration pattern, which was more contemporary than the one the Commission had previously approved. Mr. Lindstrom showed before and after elevation drawings, and the Vice-Chairman commented that he liked the change because it further differentiated this building from the other two sections and helped to break down the size of the project. There was a discussion about materials with Richard Boales from Pritzer Residential, particularly in

regard to the different colors of brick and the use of metal panels in some places; Mr. Boales said the design was still evolving. There was agreement that the fenestration changes were an improvement, and they were unanimously approved. Exhibit G

b. S.L. 02-16, George Washington University, 616 23rd Street, N.W. New 700-bed residence hall. Concept.

c. S.L. 02-17, George Washington University, 607 23rd Street, N.W. New 204-bed residence hall. Concept. These two projects were discussed together. The Assistant Secretary said they were located on opposite sides of the same street, close to the intersection with Virginia Avenue. He said the university was very excited at the prospect of having two new residence halls, especially as they would form a gateway into the campus from the south. Mr. Lindstrom asked Michelle Honey from the university to begin the presentation.

Ms. Honey said the new residence halls would consist of a high-rise with 700 beds on the west side of the street, and a low-rise, townhouse project with 204 beds on the east side. She asked the architect from Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, Mr. Kleinrock, and Mr. Goldfarb from Ayers Saint Gross, to give the Commission more details about the architecture.

Mr. Kleinrock began the presentation by describing the buildings in the immediate neighborhood and noting that the new buildings would form a good edge to the campus and would continue the combination of high-rise apartment buildings and private residences in the surrounding area. He said they had been designed in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan, and would continue the use of brick sidewalks, street trees, and ornamental gardens seen along 23rd Street. The low-rise development would consist of individual townhouse units, designed to recall the late 19th century residences nearby, with bays and windows of various configurations, and asymmetrical towers on the corners; the material would be red brick.

Mr. Goldfarb described the high-rise building, noting the buildings of similar height on that side of the street, and saying that it would be a background building designed in a style similar to others around it. Again, the material would be red brick, with limestone-color precast used for the central element and for trim. There was a brief discussion about the precast panels on the south facades of both buildings, announcing George Washington University, and how they had changed at the suggestion of the staff, but otherwise the members were pleased with the design of both units, and they were unanimously approved. Exhibit G

d. Appendix II. The Appendix was approved without objection.

III. INSPECTION

Freer Gallery of Art, objects proposed for acquisition. Staff member Sue Kohler showed photographs of two objects: A firman, or section of the Koran, a rare 11th century piece; and a late

16th century tile from Iznik, Turkey. She read the Freer's justification for the acquisition of both pieces, and they were unanimously approved. Exhibit H

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

202-504-2200
202-504-2195 FAX

EXHIBIT B

18 January 2002

Dear Mr. Carlstrom:

During its meeting of 20 December 2001, the Commission was given an informational presentation on the preliminary concept for a new underground visitor center and site security features for the Washington Monument. The members were pleased that the proposal calls not only for improvements to the physical security of the Monument but that it will mitigate and remove the temporary accretions of late and that the appearance of the grounds will be enhanced as well. Mr. Olin's concept for the sunken "garden walls" and pathways was felt to be appropriate for the grounds and the geometry of the curving walks brought favorable comment. It is understood that there is much to be done to flesh out the scheme and that there are many details to be considered and worked out.

In that regard, a request was made in the meeting to have a look at the other proposals considered by the expert panel that the Park Service so commendably assembled. I know the Park Service shares the Commission's earnest desire to come out with the very best possible design solution wherever the component ideas come from.

The Commission looks forward to the public review of the design as it develops. We realize that time is of the essence; that there is now an exciting opportunity to effect a much-needed solution to this challenging problem; and that everything possible must be done to maintain the momentum of this excellent start. As always, we offer the services of our staff for assistance should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Terry Carlstrom
Regional Director, National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, D.C. 20242

cc: John Parsons, National Park Service
Laurie Olin, Olin Partnership

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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EXHIBIT C

7 January 2002

Dear Ms. Donlon:

The Commission was pleased to meet with you at their meeting 20 December 2001 to review the final design development for the additions to the garage and the alterations to the Kennedy Center. Many of the modifications to the approved concept are an improvement. The elimination of the bow on the facade simplifies the design and maintains the historic facade. The alterations to the site and traffic pattern will improve vehicular and pedestrian circulation and greatly enhance the approach to the Center. We still look forward to the day when water access can be provided, but are sympathetic to the cost constraints at present.

However, the members expressed concern about certain proposed revisions, particularly the monumental stair and the lower terrace. A broad and inviting stair will be an improvement over the existing climb. But once the Northeast terrace restaurant is removed from the program, the curve of the monumental stair does not have any relationship to the historic style of the building and its terraces. Returning the design to an earlier option, including perhaps step notches and a diagonal splay at the bottom, may prove to be a better solution by maintaining the rectilinear character of the building and relating to the existing grid. The stepping planters are perhaps out of place in this location and might be restudied.

On the South side of the Center, the lower terrace, on the other hand, could use planters. In this area, the design needs more work. Careful attention is needed to avoid its becoming a visual eyesore. The Commission reiterates its previous concern that the surface of the lower terrace must never be used for parking. In addition to being a performing arts center, which could putatively be located in a suburban shopping mall amid a sea of parking, the Kennedy Center is also a Presidential Memorial, serving as an announcement of the capital from the Roosevelt Bridge.

One would be equally discouraging of a proposal to add an exposed parking wing onto the adjoining Lincoln Memorial. Reducing the width of the access doors to prevent, permanently, vehicular access from the garage to the plaza will help keep this from becoming an exposed parking deck in the future. Introducing landscaping and paving materials, as used in the upper terraces, will help to tie it visually to the rest of the building.

An opportunity exists to make this area an added amenity to the visitors of the Center. Restoring access from above, as in the approved design, could be rethought. For example, a rooftop garden or sculpture garden could be installed, offering a donor opportunity. At the minimum, the surface paving should be laid in an artistic pattern to be seen from the terraces above.

We look forward to the review of the design development. As always, the staff is available to assist you.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Ms. Claudette Donlon
Senior Vice President
Administration
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Washington DC 20566-0001

cc: William R. Taylor, Project Manager
David A. Mittelstadt, ASLA, Sasaki Associates
Kenneth Lewandowski, AIA, cbt Architects

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EXHIBIT D

7 January 2002

Dear Mr. Earle:

During its meeting of 20 December 2001, the Commission reviewed and approved the revised concept submission for the garage and site plan for the United States Marine Corps 8th and I Barracks Annex and Band Facility, to be located at 7th and L streets in southeast Washington, D.C. The members were pleased with the revisions to the site plan and appreciate the efforts to preserve the view corridors on the site. As for the garage the members deemed the revisions reasonable but still felt that the structure needed to be softened and suggested the addition of perimeter planter boxes with overhanging plants at the top and middle levels.

The Commission looks forward to the review of the development of the design and to providing the services of its staff should questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Lawrence P. Earle
Department of the Navy
Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake
1314 Harwood Street, SE
Washington, DC 20374-5018

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441 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

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EXHIBIT E

7 January 2002

Dear Mr. Moneme:

At its meeting on 20 December 2001, the Commission reviewed and approved the final design for the proposed public space changes to the 500 block of 10th Street, Northwest. These changes should greatly improve the unsafe and unsightly conditions on the historic block of Ford's Theatre. Even though the members were unanimous in their approval, there were two items of note: one warranted comment and one a suggestion. The first item was the substitution of recycled-plastic-composite tree box grates for the cast-iron grates that have been the standard in the city. We understand this substitution is an experiment to see if the new material will stand up to the elements and foot traffic. If the composite material fails, we would like reassurance that the grates will be replaced with the standard cast-iron grates. The second item was a suggestion for the new streetlight globes to be topped with the historic decorative finials that were prevalent years ago in the city -- a small but important detail for this historic block.

The members look forward to the completion of these enhancements. As always, the staff is available if questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Emeka Moneme
Special Assistant to the Director
District Division of Transportation
Department of Public Works
2000 14th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

cc: Stephanie Bothwell, Downtown D.C. BID
John Parsons, NPS

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EXHIBIT F

7 January 2002

Dear Mr. Block:

At its meeting on 20 December 2001, the Commission reviewed the final plans for the modernization project for the Noyes Elementary School at 10th and Franklin streets in northeast Washington. The members unanimously approved the submission for the project provided the rear entrance portico that fronts the play areas is modified with stone or cast-stone lintels over each opening. The design team should be complimented on their thoughtful approach to improve and expand the historic school building. It will be an enhancement to the community and we look forward to its completion.

Please submit a revised drawing detailing the above requested change to the staff before the construction permit is submitted to the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. As always, the staff is available if questions arise.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Stanley N. Block, P.E.
Chief, Design Management Branch
Department of the Army
Baltimore District, US Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1715
Baltimore, MD 21203-1715

cc: Sarah Woodhead, DC PS
Walter Hernson, DC PS
Antoine Plessy, US Army Corps of Engineers
Wayne Scott, McKissack and McKissack

20 December 2001

EXHIBIT G

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE
AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 02-015	Massachusetts Avenue and H Street, NW (Sq. 529) Massachusetts Courts	New 14 story apartment building - Revised concept.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to the revised concept design for a new 14 story apartment building with ground level retail space on H and 4th streets, and the preservation of three historic structures at the corner of H and 3rd streets as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 12 December 2001. The revised elevations were found to be an improvement over the previous submission. File new submission of working drawings, including details and material samples, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready. (Previous: S.L. 01-042)

S.L. 02- 016	616 23rd Street, NW George Washington University	New residence hall - Concept.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to the concept design for a new 10-story, 700-bed student residence building as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 14 December 2001. File new submission of working drawings, including details and material samples, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

S.L. 02- 017	607 23rd Streets, NW George Washington University	New residence hall. - Concept.

RECOMMENDATION: No objection to the concept design for a new 8-unit townhouse row style, 4 story, 204-bed student residence building as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 12 December 2001. File new submission of working drawings, including details and material samples, with permit application for review by the Commission when ready.

Smithsonian
Freer Gallery of Art and
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

EXHIBIT H

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution and the Commission of Fine Arts, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles Lang Freer, have examined the following:

Manuscript
Koran Section (juz)
Ink, color, and gold on paper with original binding
Central Asia, probably Uzbekistan
11th century
Purchase for the permanent collection
(V30.2001)

Tile
Composite body painted over slip under transparent glaze
Turkey, Iznik
Ca. 1575
Purchase for the permanent collection
(V28.2001)

END of LIST

20 DECEMBER 2001

Approved ***Date***
J. Carter Brown, Chairman
U.S. Commission of Fine Arts

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
Freer Gallery of Art
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
Washington DC 20560-0707
202.357.4880 Telephone